

OPERATION GROUP FILE*Pa →*

LOGNOTEPanama Bureau.....17 July 1986

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(Naquin) VISIT TO USAISC TECH CONTROL -- On 16 July Chief Technician [redacted] Chief Teletypist [redacted] Teletypist [redacted] and I visited the U.S. Army Information Systems Command (USAISC) Tech Control unit for orientation. During our visit we met with Lieutenant Colonel Wetzel, Chief of USAISC's Plans and Operations Division, and were escorted by senior Tech Control personnel.

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On 7 July the bureau's Mode V primary communications circuit was rehomed via tone pack at the Tech Control directly [redacted]. We wanted to visit Tech Control to observe the tone pack configuration as well as to meet some of the personnel whom we deal with daily. In my discussions with Tech Control supervisors Lieutenant Price and Master Sergeant Scully, I noted that many Tech Control personnel do not seem familiar with FBIS and seemingly do not know what to do if we call them with a communications problem. Lt. Price explained that many of her people are new and that the best way to handle communications problems is for our people to ask for the shift supervisor, who assuredly will be familiar with FBIS' circuit. She also said she would make information about FBIS' circuit more available to Tech Control personnel.

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We also discussed the Army MUX communications system. Sgt. Scully said the system was undergoing testing now and experiencing a few problems. Apparently, the problems are related to the commercial carrier MUX will be using. Nevertheless, MUX is expected to be operational in "two to three weeks." Scully noted that Nelson Smith is coming to Panama soon and planned to stay until the system was working. We discussed the bureau's plan to be included in MUX, and Scully showed us where the FBIS port was located. He also noted that it was his belief that our current Mode V circuit would be discontinued upon activation of Mode I into the MUX and that if we wanted to keep the Mode V as backup a TSO would have to be initiated. After our visit, [redacted] researched this question, and it does appear we will have to initiate a TSO if we wish to keep the Mode V as a backup system. I plan to discuss this issue further with C/ESG during his upcoming visit.

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cc: C/Communications
C/ESG
C/Ops
C/FBS/FED

LOGNOTEPanama Bureau.....15 July 1986

(Naquin) INTERCOMSA VISIT -- On 15 July, [] and I visited Jose Guanti, the INTERCOMSA representative working with us on the Internet project. [] introduced me to Mr. Guanti and the three of us began to discuss the status of our frequency allocation request for Internet. [] and I noted that we had asked the American Embassy this week to check on the status of both frequency allocation requests and had been told that the requests had easily passed through the Foreign Ministry and had been in the Justice Ministry since mid-June. The Justice Ministry, in turn, informed the embassy that a response would be coming "soon." In reality, however, Mr. Guanti believes the requests are currently somewhere within the bureaucracy of the Panamanian Defense Forces (PDF). This corresponds with information provided by the Office of Treaty Affairs which noted that the PDF had recently assumed jurisdiction on frequency allocation matters from the Justice Ministry. Mr. Guanti stated that unless stronger inquiries are made, "this could drag on forever." [] reiterated headquarters' position that we wish to stay within diplomatic channels if at all possible. Mr. Guanti also told us that both frequency allocation requests -- for satellite and microwave link -- were being considered together. We are not sure where he got this information, however. In any case, [] reiterated that the requests were not related and that the timing was coincidental. Still, because it has been some time since the requests left the Foreign Ministry, it appears quite possible that they are in fact being considered together.

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A second topic of discussion was C/ESG's upcoming visit. We told Mr. Guanti that C/ESG, whose office is in charge of the Internet project, would be visiting the bureau 11-12 August and that he wished to meet with Mr. Guanti and Mr. Santomeno, the General Manager and Vice President of INTERCOMSA. Mr. Guanti said a meeting will be arranged at C/ESG's convenience anytime after 1000 on 11 or 12 August. I will inform Mr. Guanti after I receive C/ESG's itinerary.

cc: C/ESG ✓
C/OPS ✓
C/FSB/FED
C/Communications

c/jcs

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